tance for setting up food processing units in different States; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the assistance and States and Units where such assistance is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) World Bank has evinced interest in funding Agro Inustries Projects in India in the field of Fisheries, Meat, and Meat products, Fruits and Vegetables, Oil Seeds, packaging Sericulture, and Leather. Consultant have been engaged for identifying the areas that may require funding.

Homes for shelterless

432. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to provide homes for shelterless;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of shelterless which are still without shelter in India; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to provide shelter to them during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Housing is a State subject and all social housing schemes are implemented by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations according to their local needs and plan priorities. Several steps have been taken at the National Level as part of National Housing Policy (N.H.P.) to meet the demands for housing. Some of them are as follows:—

(i) The Public Sector outlay for housing has been raised from Rs. 1490.37 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan to Rs. 2458.21 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(ii) To provide easy accessibility to housing finance, the National Housing Bank has been set up.

(iii) HUDCO's financial operation has been sufficiently stepped up.

(iv) The National Houisng Policy has envisaged eradication of shelterlessness from the country by turn of this century.

(v) Under the Rural House Sites-cum-Construction Assistance Scheme for landless workers, a provision of Rs. 577 crores has been made. Of this, Rs. 36 crores would be utilised to provide developed house-sites of 90 sq. mtrs. each to 7.2 lakh landless families at the rate of Rs. 500 per family and Rs. 541 crores would be utilised for the provision of construction assistance of 271 lakh families at the rate of Rs. 2000 per family.

(vi) During the last four years of the Seventh Five Year Plan, the achievements have been as follows—

31.42 lakh plots were allotted to landless workers in rural areas.

15.24 lakh families were given construction assistance.

4.58 lakh dwelling units have been constructed under the Indira Awas Yojana.

69.66 lakh persons in urban slums were covered by the scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums.

5.58 lakh dwelling units were constructed for the economically weaker sections of the population.

(vii) With a view to removing shelterlessness, Government of India has approved a scheme for provision of shelter to the pavement dwellers in the metropolitan cities. Two schemes costing Rs. 34 lakhs and Rs. 89.88 lakhs have been sanctioned for Calcutta and Madras respectively.

(c) According to the 1981 census data, the number of shelterless persons in the country (excluding Assam where census could not be held) was 23.27 lakhs.

(d) As stated in reply to parts (a) and (b).

Telecast of Kalidas Samaroh held in Ujjain

433. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kalidas Samaroh is being celebrated every year in Ujjain;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to telecast the celebration of Kalidas Samaroh;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have got the live coverage of Kalidas Samaroh through its media and other agencies;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to telecast the coverage of Kalidas Samaroh already received from these agencies; and

(e) if so, by when the celebration of Kalidas Samaroh is likely to be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Kalidas Samaroh held at Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh from 19th to 25th November, 1988 was covered by Doordarshan and excerpts of the recordings were telecast in the Sanskriti Programme telecast on 20-12-1988 and 16-2-1989 on the National Network.

Commissioning of Vishakhapatnam Steel plant

434. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant is not likely to be commissioned within schedule time;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to complete the erectioning and commissioning of Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant in time?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The main reasons are inadequate performance of some of the contractors, delay in the supply of certain items of equipment and delay on the part of Andhra Pradesh Government to make water available for the plant by construction of Yeluru Canal. The Government is continuously monitoring the pace of construction of the plant.

Welfare of old an destitute women

435. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any programme for the